

III. *Description of a new Genus and Species of Prionidæ.*

By EDMUND THOMAS HIGGINS.

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I TRUST that no apology will be considered necessary on my part, for presenting to the Society an isolated description of a Coleopterous Insect, when it is considered that it is remarkable in many respects, and forms a new genus, the publication of which will help students to understand the relationship of the allied forms more clearly than would be possible without the knowledge of this form. It is a member of the Longicorn family *Prionidæ*, and tends to connect the *Acanthophorus* group (see Pl. II. fig. 2) of the Old World, with the *Derobrachus* group (see fig. 3) of the New World.

OMMATOMENUS, nov. gen.

Genus *Acanthophoro* et *Doryceræ* affine, a quibus differt, inter alia, oculis (♂) infra contiguus, supra valde approximatis.

♂. Mandibulæ breves, minus latæ, extus vix rotundatæ, apice arcuatæ et valde acutæ. Palpi breves, maxillares labialibus vix longiores, articulis ultimis subcylindricis, truncatis. Antennæ longitudine corporis, articulis 3-10 apice intus valde productis et minutissime punctatis, opacis. Thorax transversus, lateribus utrinque valde trispinosus; spinis duabus anterioribus depressis, latis, basi concretis. Elytra elongato-elliptica, angulis suturalibus spinosis. Prosternum lanceolatum, apice coxas anticas superante et deorsum spectante. Pedes graciles, femoribus linearibus, tibiis supra et infra profunde canaliculatis, tarsis posticis angustis, articulo tertio lobis gracilibus mucronatis.

This genus is distinguished from *Tithoes* and *Acanthophorus*, two other genera of the same group, by its voluminous eyes, nearly meeting above and beneath; from *Dorycera* (White) it differs in the form of the body and prosternum, and in other characters. It presents a great resemblance to species of *Derobrachus* from Mexico, both in the form of its eyes, the spines of the thorax, and the shape of the antennal joints.

I may remark that the formation of a new genus is indicated, in a note under *Dorycera** in Lacordaire's

* As mentioned by Lacordaire, Mr. Adam White's name *Dorycera* is pre-occupied by Meigen for a genus of *Diptera*.

“Genera,” vol. viii, p. 71, as necessary for the reception of *Acanthophorus megalops*, described by Mr. Adam White in the first part of the British Museum Catalogue of Longicorns; this is a fine insect, from Fernando Po, which, I have satisfied myself from examination of the type in the British Museum, with the valuable aid of Mr. Charles O. Waterhouse, is congeneric with the new species described below.

OMMATOMENUS SERICATUS, n. sp. (Pl. II. fig. 1).

♂. Long. (mandib. exclusis) 29-34 lin.

Elongato-ellipticus, paulo convexus; saturate castaneus, antennis basi nigris. Caput crebre subtiliter punctatum; fronte concava, punctata, sericeo-fulvo-pubescente. Thorax supra paulo inæqualis, subtiliter punctatus, dense sericeo-fulvo-pubescentis; disco antico spinisque nudis. Scutellum pentagonum, in medio subtiliter punctatum, marginibus lævibus. Elytra ante medium paulo rotundato-ampliata, apicem versus angustata, angulis suturalibus breviter acuto-spinosis, supra subtiliter coriacea, opaca et punctulata, humeris punctato-rugosis; plagis confluentibus sericeo-fulvis ornata. Sterna omnia dense sericeo-fulvo-pubescentia; abdomen nudum, nitidum, segmento ultimo transverso, late emarginato.

The body is of an elongate elliptical shape, dilated behind the middle of the elytra, and very moderately convex; the colour is dark chesnut brown, with the basal part of the antennæ black. The head is finely and closely punctured, with the front concave and clothed with silky fulvous hairs: the hind part of the crown has not the well-marked ridge which distinguishes *Ommatomenus megalops* (White). The thorax is a little uneven above, and very finely punctate, not rugose-punctate, as in *O. megalops*. The sutural angles of the elytra are furnished with a short acute spine; above, the elytra are of a leathery texture, and marked with numerous very fine punctures; there are a few coarser punctures near the shoulders; the surface is opaque, and adorned with numerous patches of fine silky reddish-fulvous pubescence, which has a rich glow in certain lights. The sterna are densely clothed with longish silky fulvous pile, but the abdomen is smooth and shining.

Obtained from near the mouth of the Niger, by Mr. Simpson.